

29 MAY 2007



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John C. Eisenhart
Ked & Associates, LLP
P.O. Box 221200
Chantilly, VA 20153-1200

In re Application of : DECISION ON PETITION
LOPEZ MUNOZ :
Application No.: 10/550,007 :
PCT No.: PCT/ES04/00111 :
Int. Filing Date: 11 March 2004 : UNDER 37 CFR 1.181
Priority Date: 24 March 2003 :
Attorney Docket No.: MDR-0049 :
For: METHOD FOR THE PRODUCTION OF A :
DIGITAL PRINTING INK AND PRODUCT :
THUS PRODUCED :
:

This decision is in response to applicant's petition to withdraw the holding of abandonment filed 14 May 2007 in the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO).

BACKGROUND

On 11 March 2004, applicant filed international application PCT/ES04/00111, which claimed priority of an earlier application filed 24 March 2003. A copy of the international application was transmitted to the United States from the International Bureau (IB) on 07 October 2004. Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.485, the deadline for payment of the basic national fee in the United States was to expire 30 months from the priority date, 24 September 2005.

On 23 September 2005, applicant filed a transmittal letter for entry into the national stage in the United States, which was accompanied by, *inter alia*: the requisite basic national fee as required by 35 U.S.C. 371(c)(1); an English translation of the international application as filed and an Information Disclosure Statement.

On 23 May 2006, applicant was mailed a "NOTIFICATION OF MISSING REQUIREMENTS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371" (Form PCT/DO/EO/905) informing applicant of the need to provide a signed oath or declaration of the inventor, in compliance with 37 CFR 1.497(a) and (b), identifying the application by the international application number and international filing date and provide payment of the surcharge for providing an oath or declaration later than thirty months from the priority date. Applicant was afforded two months to file a proper response.

On 03 May 2007, applicant was mailed a NOTIFICATION OF ABANDONMENT (Form PCT/DO/EO/909) informing applicant that applicant had failed to respond to the Form PCT/DO/EO/905 mailed 23 May 2006 within the time period set therein and that above-

identified application was abandoned as to the United States.

On 14 May 2007, applicant filed the present petition to withdraw the holding of abandonment arguing that a response had been filed on 23 June 2006.

DISCUSSION

The best evidence of what was actually received by the Office is a postcard receipt containing a specific itemization of all the items being submitted. See MPEP 503. Here, applicant has provided a copy of the date-stamped postcard receipt, as well as, a complete copy of the prior filing and certification that the copy currently provided is a true and complete copy of the papers filed on 23 June 2006. The postcard identifies the application by serial number, title, inventor and attorney docket number. Among the items listed on the receipt is: "Executed Declaration and Power of Attorney" The receipt is stamped "OIPE IAP40 Patent & Trademark Office JUN 23 2006." Thus, it is clear that applicant filed an executed declaration and power of attorney on 23 June 2006 and it is proper to grant applicant's petition to withdraw the holding of abandonment for failure to file a response.

CONCLUSION

For the reasons detailed above, applicant's petition under 37 CFR 1.181 is **GRANTED**.

The Form PCT/DO/EO/909 mailed 03 May 2007 is hereby **VACATED**.

The application has an international filing date of 11 March 2004 under 35 U.S.C. 363 and will be given a date of **23 June 2006** under 35 U.S.C. 371(c)(1), (c)(2) and (c)(4).

This application is being returned to the United States Designated/Elected Office (US/DO/EO) for further processing in accordance with this decision, namely the issuance of a "Notification of Acceptance of Application Under 35 U.S.C. 371 and 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495" (Form PCT/DO/EO/903) and a corrected filing receipt indicating the correct 371 date as detailed above.



Derek A. Putonen
Attorney Advisor
Office of PCT Legal Administration
Tel: (571) 272-3294
Fax: (571) 273-0459

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